

DCF ARGENTINA HIGH-LEVEL SYMPOSIUM
South-South and Triangular Cooperation for achieving the 2030 Agenda. Building innovative and inclusive partnerships
6-8 September 2017
San Martín Palace, Buenos Aires

Session V
Building and strengthening institutions of South-South cooperation and reaching outcomes

Speaker Bios

Ms. Rebecca GRYNSPAN, Secretary-General, SEGIB (Ibero-America) (Introductory remarks)



Rebeca Grynspan was unanimously elected Ibero-American Secretary General on February 24, 2014 in Mexico City. In 2010, Grynspan was elected assistant secretary general of the United Nations (UN) and associate administrator of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Between 2006 and 2010, she was the Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of UNDP. A well-known human development advocate, she has greatly helped to focus the attention of the world and Latin America on such important issues as reducing inequality and poverty, gender equity, South-South cooperation as a tool for development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, among others. She was also a UN delegate to the Haiti Reconstruction Commission, a group of Haitian government officials, former US President Bill Clinton and other prominent international partners. In 2014 and 2015 she has been chosen as one of the 50 most influential intellectuals in Latin America.

Mr. Ahmed Elsharief MOHAMMED, Director General, Ministry of International Cooperation, SUDAN

Mr. Elsharief is Director-General at the Ministry of International Cooperation in Sudan Prior to this post, he had various Director level positions starting 2005 (Asia Department, Africa Affairs Department in MIC, African & European Affairs in MIC, Director of Financial Bilateral Cooperation in MIC, Asia General Directorate in MIC, Poverty Reduction Unit, European Union Department). He holds an M. Sc (Honors) in Rural Development from the National University of Ireland, Dublin, a Post-graduate Diploma in Development Planning from the University of Khartoum and a B.Sc in (Econometrics) from the Faculty of Economics & Social Studies, University of Khartoum.

H.E. Mr. Joao ALMINO, Director, Brazilian Agency for Cooperation, BRAZIL



João Almino, a career diplomat, is a Brazilian Ambassador. He served at the embassies of Brazil in Paris and in Mexico. He was appointed Chargé d'affaires in Beirut, Deputy Chief of Mission in London and Consul-General in San Francisco, London, Miami, Chicago, Washington and Madrid. He was Director of Rio Branco Institute (2001-2004), the Brazilian Diplomatic Academy. He holds a doctorate degree from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales of Paris (School for Advanced Studies in Social Sciences).

Ms. Suphatra SRIMAITREEPHITHAK, Director-General, Thai International Development Cooperation Agency, THAILAND



Mrs. Suphatra Srimaitreephithak has been the Director-General of Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) since December 2015. Over 30 years of her service at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, she gained experiences from her works at Information Department; International Economic Affairs Department; Department of International Organizations; Department of South Asia, Middle East, and Africa; and her oversea assignments in Brussels, Geneva, Hong Kong, and Guangzhou. Prior to joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, she was a Proofreader at “The Nations”, an English language Newspaper in Thailand and a Project Officer at Mitsui Sumitomo Telecommunication Project Office, Thailand. She holds a Master’s Degree in Development Studies from Ohio University, U.S.A., and a Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science (International Relations) from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand.

H.E. Ms. Petra BAYR, Member of Parliament, Head of Development Policy Committee, National Council of the Republic of AUSTRIA (Lead discussant)



Ms. Petra Bayr is the Head of Development Policy Committee of National Council of the Republic of Austria. Meanwhile, she is also the Head of Austrian AWEPA Section (Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa) since 2011, board Member of PGA - Parliamentarians for Global Action and Co-Convenor of the Gender Equality and Population Programme since 2015 and board Member and Treasurer of PGA - Parliamentarians for Global Action since 2016. Before assuming position in the Parliament in 2002, she was Chair of “Young Generation” of the SPÖ Vienna and member of the Executive Board of

the SPÖ Vienna. Ms. Petra Bayr obtained her MA on human rights and Master of Legal Studies from Danube University Krems.

Mr. Vitalice MEJA, Executive Director, Reality of Aid Africa (Lead discussant)



Mr. Vitalice Meja is a development policy analysis specialist in the areas of development cooperation, economic development, poverty reduction policies and microfinance as it relates to NGOs, government and intergovernmental organizations. He co-ordinates the Reality of Aid Africa Network – a pan-African network working on poverty eradication through effective development co-operation.

Mr. Yaroslav TURIANSKYI, Deputy Programme Head, Governance and APRM, South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA) (Lead discussant)



Mr. Yarik Turianskyi is the Deputy Programme Head for Governance and African Peer Review Mechanism at the South African Institute of International Affairs. He is a Ukrainian national who has been living in South Africa since 2001. He holds a Master’s degree from the University of Pretoria. He is the co-editor of a book ‘African Accountability: What Works and What Doesn’t’. Apart from writing on African governance, Yarik has also been involved at various South African radio stations as both a presenter and correspondent since 2002.